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CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
NORTH COAST REGION

ORDER NO. 97-3  
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0025038  
WDID NO. 1B96074SSON

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
CITY OF SANTA ROSA,  
SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY,  
AND  
COUNTY OF SONOMA,  
STORM WATER DISCHARGES

Sonoma County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter the Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. The City of Santa Rosa, the Sonoma County Water Agency, and the County of Sonoma (hereinafter collectively referred to as the permittees) have entered into an interagency agreement for coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for storm water discharges. The permittees submitted, as co-permittees, Part 1 of the NPDES Area-Wide Municipal Storm Water Permit Application on February 10, 1995, and Part 2 of the Application on October 1, 1996.
2. The NPDES Permit application includes a storm water management program (SWMP), a monitoring plan, and an assessment plan for managing discharges of storm water from the municipal separate storm sewer system (hereinafter referred to as the permittees' storm drain system) within the Permit boundary, as defined in Finding 6, which is within the jurisdiction of the North Coast Regional Water Board.
3. The 1987 amendments to the CWA Federal Water Pollution Control Act (also referred to as the Clean Water Act (CWA)) added Section 402(p) which establishes a framework for regulating municipal and industrial storm water discharges under the NPDES program.
4. On November 16, 1990, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) published final regulations that establish application requirements for storm water permits. The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 122, Section 26 (40 CFR 122.26(a)) defines municipal storm water permit requirements. Section 26(a)(iii) and (iv) require that NPDES storm water permits be issued for discharges from large (urban areas serving greater than 250,000 persons) and medium (urban areas serving greater than 100,000 persons but less than 250,000 persons) municipal separate storm sewer systems. The regulations define "municipal separate storm sewer" to mean "a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipals streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains)".